



Alaska State Legislature House and Senate Democrats

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Senator Davis Comments on Passing of Husband

From "Special Orders" on the Senate floor, Monday, March 8

JUNEAU – Senator Bettye Davis (D-Anchorage) returned to work this week after spending time at her husband's side during his final fight against cancer. Senator Davis shared these thoughts with her colleagues upon her return to work:

Thank you Mr. President, I'll be very brief. I just want to say I'm very glad to be back here on the Senator floor. All of you know I've been going through a situation with my husband and he died February 16. I want you to know that I have a graceful heart that I've had as much support as I've had from not only people here but throughout this community and state and my relatives.

And I thank God for allowing me to take care of my husband right up until the time that he died. I just want to share with you that I was married to my husband for 45 years, January the 21st. He's known me longer than any living person except my sister and my brother because my parents are deceased. He was not only my husband, he was my friend and I'm sorry that he's gone but I feel good that he's in a better place, I know that he's in a better place now. And I just want to say thank you to my children for being there not just for me but for their father, my grandchildren, my staff members, and all of you that have called and sent letters to me, and prayed for me.

I know that the Lord won't put any more on me than I can bare and I have come through this and I know it's going to be a tough struggle. I miss my husband very much but I want you to know that I feel that I'm doing what he wants me to do and I know that he's in a better place. And I thank God for allowing me to have 45 years, 2 children, and my grandchildren in that marriage. 45 years ago when I got married, my goal was to make sure that I stayed married without being divorced. I thought I would live long enough to celebrate a 50-year but it wasn't to be but I thank God for the 45 years I did have.

And I thank all of you for being so understanding and as I go through the rest of the session feel free to just treat me like you always have treated me. I'm not asking for any special privileges or special concerns but I would ask that you hold me up in your prayers. Thank you.

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